

**METHODS OF PREPARING DIDESMETHYLSIBUTRAMINE
AND OTHER SIBUTRAMINE DERIVATIVES**

ABSTRACT

5 This invention encompasses novel methods of preparing sibutramine and sibutramine derivatives, and stereomerically pure sibutramine derivatives in particular. Examples of sibutramine derivatives include, but are not limited to, sibutramine metabolites such as desmethylsibutramine and didesmethylsibutramine. The invention further encompasses novel compounds useful in the synthesis of sibutramine derivatives.

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